

March 15, 2013

Re: HB 6519 and ~~HB 6527~~

Attention: Pamela Sawyer, Steve Cassano, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Murphy, Joe Courtney

*To: Public Health Committee Members*

As I write you this letter, my young children are sleeping quietly – and safely – upstairs, unscathed by the complexities of our modern world. As their mother, I have gradually grown into my implicit maternal roles; although I must say, provider of care and encouragement have come much more easily than that of cook.

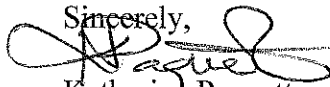
I used to work in a community mental health clinic as a Clinical Social Worker. Feeling the pressures of time constraints, I did not read the labels of foods I ate; naively believing, “if it’s on the grocery store shelf, it must be okay.” It wasn’t until I stopped working full-time that I began to consider more closely the foods my family ate. And it was probably at about this same time that more information about genetically engineered foods became more accessible. But my attempts to be a good cook will always be devoid of any real substance if product labels don’t include the whole spectrum of ingredients.

I write to you today with strong sense of urgency to pass bills that would require the labeling of genetically engineered foods. More than ever, we know about the negative effects of these food products on our environments, wildlife, and human bodies; and makers of these products are casting ever-expansive shadows on our freedoms and farmlands.

We have a right to know what we are eating. I have the right to know what what I am feeding my children.

Please stand up for my family, for my children, and for the American People.

Sincerely,



Katherine Paquette  
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